

Message Text

SECRET

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62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

INFO CINCPAC

S E C R E T STATE 175937

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, VN

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE-VIETNAMESE COMMUNIQUE

REFS: A. MANILA 10214, B. MANILA 10211, C. MANILA 10112

1. THE DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES YOUR INITIATIVE WITH INGLES TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION OF THE PARAGRAPH IN THE PHILIPPINE-VIETNAMESE COMMUNIQUE WHICH CONTAINS THE PLEDGE OF BOTH COUNTRIES: "NOT TO ALLOW ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY TO USE ONE'S TERRITORY AS A BASE FOR DIRECT OR INDIRECT AGGRESSION AND INTERVENTION AGAINST THE OTHER COUNTRY OR COUNTRIES IN THE REGION."

2. WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT YOUR INITIAL JUDGMENT (REF B) THAT THE "VAGUE LANGUAGE BARRING AGGRESSION APPEARS TO PRESENT NO PROBLEMS FOR INSTALLATIONS WHICH ARE BOUND BY TREATY AND PRACTICE TO THE OPPOSITE MISSION OF REPELLING

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AGGRESSION." HOWEVER, THERE IS CONCERN HERE THAT THE

LANGUAGE OF THE COMMUNIQUE COULD BE USED TO INTERFERE WITH
OR INHIBIT SPECIFIC U.S. OPERATIONAL USE OF PHILIPPINE
BASES.

WHILE WE LEAVE TO YOUR DISCRETION WHETHER TO DISCUSS THE
QUESTION FURTHER WITH THE GOP, WE ASSUME THAT THE RESULTS
OF CURRENT BASE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE SUCH AS TO ASSURE
THAT PHILIPPINE-VIETNAMESE COMMUNIQUE WILL NOT IMPINGE ON
U.S. OPERATIONAL USE OF BASES. KISSINGER

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NNN

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